



NewsLetter

Nov. & Dec. 2024



Welcome Message

Dear Readers,

Warm greetings to all, and welcome to the November–December 2024 edition of the UNILAK Newsletter. It is my great pleasure to share with you the exciting milestones and remarkable events that have shaped these past months at our institution.

One of the highlights has been the arrival of a distinguished team of 10 professors from Nigeria under the Technical Aid Corps (TAC) program. These accomplished academics have been warmly received and introduced to their respective campuses, where they will make a significant impact on the academic landscape.

Their induction to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was a testament to the strong collaboration between our nations.

We were also deeply honored to host Honorable Yusuf Buba Yakub, the Director General of TAC, whose visit marked a pivotal moment in strengthening our partnership with the program.

Our university's global footprint continues to grow. Representatives from UNILAK actively participated in the Europe University Summit and the International Week for Global Partnership in Germany. These engagements have opened doors to new opportunities, reinforced our commitment to international collaboration, and deepened our ties with leading academic institutions worldwide.

Our university celebrated the launch of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) clubs across all its campuses. This initiative, spearheaded by the Ministry of Justice, equips our students with essential skills for legal practice and fosters the values of peace and harmony within society.

Another cherished tradition, the Week of Prayer, brought a sense of spiritual renewal to our university community. Students across all campuses gathered to engage with the Word of God and participate in meaningful fellowship.

This week concluded with the joyous baptism of 28 students, a testament to the profound spiritual growth within our community. As we look forward to the New Year, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all members of our university community for your continued collaboration and support. Together, we are shaping a brighter future for our students and our institution.

Wishing you a prosperous and fulfilling 2025!

Warm regards,

Prof. Jean NGAMIJE
The Vice Chancellor



Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub Visits UNILAK to promote TAC Partnership

Hon. Yusuf Buba Yakub, the Director General of Nigeria's Technical Aid Corps (TAC), paid a courtesy visit to UNILAK, marking a significant milestone in the growing collaboration between the institution and the TAC program.

During his visit, Hon. Yakub held discussions with the university leadership, including the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ngamije Jean, and other senior officials.

The talks centered on strengthening the existing partnership between UNILAK and TAC, with a focus on expanding opportunities for knowledge exchange and capacity-building initiatives.

The TAC program, established by the Nigerian government, has been instrumental in deploying skilled professionals to institutions across Africa and beyond. UNILAK is currently hosting 10 TAC professors from Nigeria, who are contributing to the university's academic programs in various disciplines, including Computing sciences, Law, Business studies and Environmental studies.

In his remarks, Hon. Yakub emphasized the importance of such partnerships in promoting sustainable development and regional integration.

"The collaboration between TAC and UNILAK represents a shared vision of empowering communities through education and skill development. We are committed to building on this foundation to create even greater impact," he stated.

Prof. Ngamije expressed gratitude for TAC's support and highlighted the positive impact the TAC professors have had on the university's academic environment.

"The presence of TAC professionals has enhanced the learning experience for our students. We look forward to deepening this partnership for mutual benefit," he said.

The visit concluded with a reaffirmation of both parties' commitment to sustaining and expanding the collaboration. Plans for future initiatives, including joint research projects and capacity-building workshops, were also discussed.

Hon. Yakub's visit reinforces the vital role of partnerships in advancing education and fostering cross-border collaboration. UNILAK remains dedicated to its mission of delivering quality education and contributing to regional and global development through meaningful alliances like the one with TAC.



TAC Volunteers introduced to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs– Rwanda

Mr. Richard Niyonkuru, the Deputy Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance at UNILAK, paid a courtesy visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Rwanda to introduce the newly arrived Technical Aid Corps (TAC) volunteers who are set to collaborate with the university over the next two years. The visit, which took place on December 19, 2024, was warmly received by senior officials from the Ministry.

The Ministry officials expressed their appreciation for the partnership between UNILAK and the Nigerian Technical Aid Corps, emphasizing the potential of the collaboration to enhance knowledge exchange and capacity building across various academic disciplines.

Mr. Richard took the opportunity to highlight the valuable contributions the TAC volunteers will make in supporting academic programs and strengthening the university's ties with international institutions.

In his remarks, Mr. Richard noted that the TAC volunteers bring a wealth of expertise and experience, which will significantly benefit students and faculty members at UNILAK. The volunteers are expected to play a pivotal role in fostering academic excellence and providing specialized training to the next generation of leaders in various fields.

The visit was a significant step in reinforcing the growing collaboration between Rwanda and Nigeria through the TAC initiative, which has been instrumental in the development of key sectors in partner countries.

The Ministry extended a warm welcome to the TAC volunteers and assured them of their support in their new roles, marking a promising start to a mutually beneficial partnership.



NIGERIAN TECHNICAL AID CORPS MEMBERS BEGIN INDUCTION AT UNILAK CAMPUSES

Members of the Nigerian Technical Aid Corps (TAC) have officially commenced their induction at various campuses of UNILAK.

Following an agreement between the governments of Rwanda and Nigeria, the TAC members will serve at UNILAK for the next two years, providing their expertise and knowledge to students and staff across the institution.

During the induction, TAC members were introduced to different corners of the campus, including academic departments, research facilities, and administrative offices. They explored various parts of the university, meeting with faculty members, students, and staff, and familiarizing themselves with the unique aspects of the university's environment.

The TAC members bring a wealth of experience in various fields, including education, technology, and public service, which will contribute significantly to the university's academic and research initiatives.

Their presence at UNILAK is expected to foster academic collaborations, mentorship, and professional development opportunities for both students and staff. Speaking about the induction, the campuses' coordinators noted, "We are excited to welcome our Nigerian Technical Aid Corps colleagues. Their dedication and expertise will greatly enrich our university community, ensuring a dynamic exchange of knowledge and skills over the next two years."

The TAC members expressed their enthusiasm to engage with the vibrant academic community at UNILAK and look forward to contributing to the institution's growth and success.





UNILAK STRENGTHENS GLOBAL TIES: PROF. ANTHONY ATTENDS EUROPE UNIVERSITY SUMMIT

UNILAK's academic staff in charge of Partnerships, Prof. Anthony Uwaya, attended the Europe University Summit on November 8th, 2024, an event that brings together higher education leaders, policymakers, and academic professionals from across the globe.

Prof. Anthony's participation at this prestigious summit underscores UNILAK commitment to advancing international collaboration and academic excellence.

During the summit, he engaged in high-level strategic meetings with representatives from renowned universities in Italy, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

Speaking on the significance of this engagement, Prof. Anthony emphasized that "building partnerships with leading institutions in Europe aligns with UNILAK's mission to provide world-class education and equip our students with opportunities to excel in a globalized world."

The outcomes of these negotiations are anticipated to pave the way for transformative educational opportunities for UNILAK students and faculty, while also enhancing the university's reputation on the international stage.



Dr. Christine represents UNILAK at International Week for Global Partnership in Germany

Dr. Christine, the Dean of the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Management at UNILAK, recently attended the International Week for Global Partnership hosted by Kempten University of Applied Sciences, Germany.

This annual event serves as a platform for fostering academic collaboration among higher education institutions worldwide.

The International Week brought together representatives from universities across continents to explore avenues for research partnerships, staff development, and student exchange programs.

Dr. Christine's participation underscored UNILAK's commitment to building strong international ties that enhance educational opportunities and research capabilities for its faculty and students.

During the event, Dr. Christine engaged in discussions with academic leaders and researchers, focusing on areas of mutual interest, including sustainable economic development, digital transformation, and entrepreneurship.

She also explored opportunities for exchange programs that would enable students and staff from UNILAK to benefit from Kempten University's advanced facilities and academic expertise.

"This event highlights the importance of global collaboration in addressing the challenges of today's interconnected world. UNILAK is eager to strengthen its partnerships to create transformative experiences for our academic community," Dr. Christine remarked.

The participation of UNILAK in such international forums reflects its strategic vision of expanding its global footprint and enhancing the quality of education and research through collaboration with esteemed institutions like Kempten University of Applied Sciences.

ADR Club launched

On December 11, 2024, UNILAK Kigali campus played host to an event organized by the Ministry of Justice, marking the launch of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Club, a significant step in fostering a culture of peaceful conflict resolution within the university community.

The launch at UNILAK Kigali Campus follows similar initiatives held at Nyanza and Rwamagana campuses, highlighting the Ministry's commitment to promoting Alternative Dispute Resolution as an effective mechanism for resolving disputes amicably, without resorting to litigation. These events are part of a broader campaign to raise awareness about the benefits of ADR, particularly among university students who are to become future leaders and professionals.

Speaking at the event, a representative from the Ministry of Justice appreciated UNILAK for its collaboration and enthusiasm in advancing the ADR agenda.

"The establishment of ADR Clubs across campuses is a testament to the university's dedication to equipping students with skills that are critical not only for legal practice but also for fostering harmonious relationships in society," the representative remarked.

The launch of the ADR Club aligns with UNILAK's mission to produce well-rounded graduates who are equipped to address societal challenges through innovative and constructive approaches. By embracing ADR, the university is contributing to a more harmonious and collaborative community, both on and off campus.

As the ADR initiative continues to expand across UNILAK, it is expected to inspire a new generation of advocates for peaceful conflict resolution, reinforcing the Ministry of Justice's vision for a just and cohesive society.



UNILAK CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF GIS DAY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ESRI RWANDA

UNILAK joined the global community in celebrating the 25th anniversary of GIS Day on November 20, 2024, in partnership with Environmental System Research Institute Rwanda (ESRI RWANDA).

The event, themed "Mapping Minds, Shaping the World," brought together students, lecturers, and geospatial experts to explore the transformative power of Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Held at the university's main campus, the celebration aimed to inspire the next generation of geospatial professionals by showcasing the diverse applications of GIS in addressing real-world challenges.

ESRI Rwanda's experts highlighted the role of GIS in advancing sustainable development, urban planning, disaster management, and environmental conservation. They also provided hands-on training sessions, enabling students to gain practical skills in geospatial data analysis.

Speaking at the event, Dr. Mupenzi Christophe, Dean of the Faculty of Environmental Studies at UNILAK, emphasized the importance of equipping students with geospatial knowledge.

"GIS is more than a technology; it is a lens through which we can better understand and shape the world. This event reflects our commitment to fostering innovation and collaboration in this field," he said.

Participants lauded the event as both educational and inspiring.

"Learning about GIS has opened my eyes to how maps can solve problems in health, agriculture, and even disaster response," remarked Jane Mutoni, a second-year student.

UNILAK collaboration with ESRI Rwanda underscores its dedication to empowering students with skills that align with global technological advancements.

This milestone event reinforces the university's role as a hub for innovation and learning in the region.



Worship

Relationships

Pr Dr David ODHIAMBO

John 4:16-21





UNILAK concludes Week of Prayer with transformative messages and baptisms

UNILAK concluded its Week of Prayer on Saturday, November 30, 2024, an annual event that brought together students, faculty, and staff across all campuses from November 23 to 30. The spiritually enriching week featured a series of powerful sermons centered on God's love, the assurance of eternity, and the concept of destiny.

Throughout the week, different preachers inspired the university community with messages that resonated deeply, encouraging reflection and spiritual growth. The culmination of the week was marked by the baptism of 28 students, symbolizing a renewed commitment to faith and a profound moment of celebration for the university.

The Week of Prayer is a cherished tradition at UNILAK, providing students with a meaningful opportunity to connect with the Word of God and to engage in spiritual fellowship. Participants expressed their gratitude for the initiative, emphasizing its role in fostering a sense of community and personal transformation.



UNIVERSITY OF LAY
ADVENTISTS OF KIGALI
Knowledge & Wisdom



**CLASSES
WILL START**
06/1/2025

JANUARY *Intake*

OUR FACULTIES

- Law
- Environmental Studies
- Computing and Information Sciences
- Economic Sciences and Management
- Education

OUR CAMPUSES

- Kigali Campus
- Nyanza Campus
- Rwamagana Campus



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